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REVIEWED.

5-0924

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Prevention of Travel of Skilled Personnel to the Soviet Bloc

1. Under emergency powers vested in the President, the Immigration and Naturalization Service has been administering a program which prevents the departure of skilled personnel in certain categories from this country for travel to the Soviet Bloc. To date, approximately 140 scientists have had their departure prevented by administrative determination of the I&NS based on information available without specifying the nature of the information.

2. We are now informed that a trained oceanographer, who applied for permission to travel to Communist China, has contested the refusal of a permit and has obtained a court order directing that the I&NS conduct a hearing as to whether or not his travel should be permitted. The I&NS believes that to obtain the desired determination that this scientist should not travel it would be necessary to demonstrate conditions existing within Communist China which would make his special skills and knowledge of greater value to the military potential and security of that country.

3. The I&NS has asked for our assistance in this respect and wishes guidance as to how they can document or otherwise introduce evidence at the hearing. While the hearing itself can be private, an appeal could probably lead to open court proceedings. It would seem that State, Defense, and CIA all have an interest in supporting the I&NS and that a formula should be worked out to introduce information to the board hearing.

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LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON  
Acting Deputy Director  
(Administration)